using observation at a nearby or upstream station through linear regression. However, there is no specific mention in the paper about extent of variation in the flow of river Ganga.

The analysis of available data at important sites by Central Water Commission do not indicate any significant trend about change in flow pattern of river Ganga.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Kishanganga Project

3643. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and Pakistan have begun bilateral talks on Kishanganga project through the joint water commission;

(b) whether it is a fact that differences continue among Pakistan officials over India's position on the project; and

(c) whether there is any possibility of these differences being resolved in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA) : (a) The Kishanganga HE project, as run of the river hydroelectric project, has been discussed in the 99th, 100th, 101st and 103rd meetings of the Permanent Indus Commission held in May/June 2007, May/June 2008, July 2008 and May/June 2009 respectively.

(b) and (c) Pakistan is of the view that differences/disputes over the project have arisen and need to be resolved under the provisions of the Indus Waters Treaty 1960 relating to the Settlement of Differences and Disputes. India has fully explained the compliance of the project with the provisions of the Treaty and has therefore affirmed that the stage of differences/disputes has not arisen and the issues can be further discussed at Commission level.

The Treaty provides for the settlement of issues at Permanent Indus Commission level or at Government level by mutual agreement or, through a Neutral Expert and /or Negotiators/Court of Arbitration and the resolution of the issues is contingent upon either of these.

National Rivers

†3644. SHRI Y. P. TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether the time has come for Government to improve the condition of all the rivers in the country after the declaration of Ganga as a National River;

(b) whether Government is realising the urgency of paying proper attention towards other main rivers like Yamuna, Gomati, Narmada, Godavari, Krishna, Cauvery Brahmaputra, etc.; and

(c) whether it is deemed urgent to give all these rivers the status of National Rivers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA) : (a) to (c) The National River Conservation Plan of Ministry of Environment and Forests covers pollution abatement works for polluted stretches of 37 rivers in 166 towns of 20 States. The main rivers covered include Ganga, Yamuna, Gomti, Narmada, Godavari, Krishna, Kaveri, Satluj, Damodar, etc. The Central Government has declared Ganga as a National River and constituted the National Ganga River Basin Authority to adopt a holistic and integrated approach with river basin as the unit of planning.

Funds under AIBP

†3645. SHRI Y. P. TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has planned to make funds available to State Governments for Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP);

(b) if so, the funds provided to States under AIBP, so far, State-wise;

(c) whether several States have demanded to Central Government for amending the guidelines meant for AIBP; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The State-wise details of central assistance provided to the State Governments under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) so far are given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below)

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The liberalization of the AIBP guidelines as per demands of the State Governments is a continuous process taken up by the Union Government is consultation with State Government and other stake holders from time to time. The prominent demand of the State Government is for liberalization of funding by the Union Government.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.